

Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula, 2009

by

Aaron D. Poetter

February 2009

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Divisions of Sport Fish and Commercial Fisheries



Symbols and Abbreviations

The following symbols and abbreviations, and others approved for the Système International d'Unités (SI), are used without definition in the following reports by the Divisions of Sport Fish and of Commercial Fisheries: Fishery Manuscripts, Fishery Data Series Reports, Fishery Management Reports, and Special Publications. All others, including deviations from definitions listed below, are noted in the text at first mention, as well as in the titles or footnotes of tables, and in figure or figure captions.

Weights and measures (metric)		General		Measures (fisheries)	
centimeter	cm	Alaska Administrative		fork length	FL
deciliter	dL	Code	AAC	mideye to fork	MEF
gram	g	all commonly accepted		mideye to tail fork	METF
hectare	ha	abbreviations	e.g., Mr., Mrs., AM, PM, etc.	standard length	SL
kilogram	kg			total length	TL
kilometer	km	all commonly accepted			
liter	L	professional titles	e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc.	Mathematics, statistics	
meter	m			<i>all standard mathematical</i>	
milliliter	mL	at	@	<i>signs, symbols and</i>	
millimeter	mm	compass directions:		<i>abbreviations</i>	
		east	E	alternate hypothesis	H _A
		north	N	base of natural logarithm	<i>e</i>
		south	S	catch per unit effort	CPUE
		west	W	coefficient of variation	CV
		copyright	©	common test statistics	(F, t, χ^2 , etc.)
		corporate suffixes:		confidence interval	CI
		Company	Co.	correlation coefficient	
		Corporation	Corp.	(multiple)	R
		Incorporated	Inc.	correlation coefficient	
		Limited	Ltd.	(simple)	r
		District of Columbia	D.C.	covariance	cov
		et alii (and others)	et al.	degree (angular)	°
		et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	degrees of freedom	df
		exempli gratia		expected value	<i>E</i>
		(for example)	e.g.	greater than	>
		Federal Information		greater than or equal to	≥
		Code	FIC	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
		id est (that is)	i.e.	less than	<
		latitude or longitude	lat. or long.	less than or equal to	≤
		monetary symbols		logarithm (natural)	ln
		(U.S.)	\$, ¢	logarithm (base 10)	log
		months (tables and		logarithm (specify base)	log ₂ , etc.
		figures): first three		minute (angular)	'
		letters	Jan,...,Dec	not significant	NS
		registered trademark	®	null hypothesis	H ₀
		trademark	™	percent	%
		United States		probability	P
		(adjective)	U.S.	probability of a type I error	
		United States of		(rejection of the null	
		America (noun)	USA	hypothesis when true)	α
		U.S.C.	United States	probability of a type II error	
			Code	(acceptance of the null	
		U.S. state	use two-letter	hypothesis when false)	β
			abbreviations	second (angular)	"
			(e.g., AK, WA)	standard deviation	SD
				standard error	SE
				variance	
				population	Var
				sample	var
Weights and measures (English)					
cubic feet per second	ft ³ /s				
foot	ft				
gallon	gal				
inch	in				
mile	mi				
nautical mile	nmi				
ounce	oz				
pound	lb				
quart	qt				
yard	yd				
Time and temperature					
day	d				
degrees Celsius	°C				
degrees Fahrenheit	°F				
degrees kelvin	K				
hour	h				
minute	min				
second	s				
Physics and chemistry					
all atomic symbols					
alternating current	AC				
ampere	A				
calorie	cal				
direct current	DC				
hertz	Hz				
horsepower	hp				
hydrogen ion activity	pH				
(negative log of)					
parts per million	ppm				
parts per thousand	ppt,				
	‰				
volts	V				
watts	W				

FISHERY MANAGEMENT REPORT NO. 09-05

**POST-JUNE SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SOUTH
ALASKA PENINSULA, 2009**

by

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ABSTRACT

The Post-June Alaska Peninsula commercial salmon fishery is scheduled to occur from July 6 through September 30 in 2009. This document describes how the fishery will be managed, the requirements for industry to participate in the fishery, and how to contact and relay information to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). This document is intended as a guide to the stakeholders interested in commercial salmon fisheries in the South Alaska Peninsula Management Area (Area M). Specific information regarding commercial salmon fishing should be obtained from the ADF&G prior to fishing in the area.

Key words: Alaska Peninsula, Post-June commercial salmon fishery, salmon management plan, historical harvests, sockeye salmon *Oncorhynchus nerka*, chum salmon *O. keta*, pink salmon *O. gorbuscha*, Area M

INTRODUCTION

This document is intended to provide commercial salmon harvesters and processors with a description of how the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) will manage the South Alaska Peninsula Post-June salmon fishery. This document also outlines the requirements for the industry to participate in the fishery, as well as how to contact and relay information to the department.

The South Alaska Peninsula Salmon Management Area consists of Pacific Ocean state waters from Kupreanof Point west to Scotch Cap on Unimak Island and includes the Southeastern, South Central, Southwestern, and Unimak districts (Figure 1).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Inseason announcements will be broadcast on radio station KSDP AM 830 KHz in Sand Point and rebroadcast over K201DA FM 88.1 MHz in King Cove, as well as on marine VHF channels 6 and 73 daily at 9:30 AM and 5:00 PM. Recorded information may also be obtained by calling the ADF&G recorder phones in Sand Point at (907) 383-2334 (383-ADFG).

During the 2009 season, catch, escapement, and announcements will be available at the Commercial Fisheries website: www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us/region4/rgn4home.php

HARVEST REPORTING

As required by 5 AAC 39.130 (c), buyers, transporters, and catcher/processors must report their daily salmon purchases/harvest by species (in both numbers of fish and pounds), statistical area, and number of deliveries by gear type to the ADF&G office in Sand Point or Cold Bay by 9:30 AM the day following the delivery. However, earlier reporting is appreciated and is helpful in prosecuting an orderly fishery. The department can be contacted on VHF channels 6 and 73, and SSB radio frequency 3.230 MHz. Buyers may also phone, e-mail, or fax their harvest information to the ADF&G offices in Cold Bay or Sand Point.

Cold Bay	Tel: 907-532-2419	e-mail: aaron.poetter@alaska.gov	Fax: 907-532-2470
Sand Point	Tel: 907-383-2066	e-mail: aaron.poetter@alaska.gov	Fax: 907-383-2606

Fish tickets must be received in the ADF&G office in Sand Point or Cold Bay (listed below) within seven days of the purchase date (5 AAC 39.130(c)).

Alaska Department of Fish & Game
P.O. Box 50
Cold Bay, AK 99571

Alaska Department of Fish & Game
P.O. Box 129
Sand Point, AK 99661

CURRENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

After June 30, the South Alaska Peninsula commercial salmon fishery will be managed according to the Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula (5 AAC 09.366). The plan was adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) in 1991 and most recently amended by BOF in February 2007 (Appendix A1). Under the amended plan, commercial salmon fishing from July 6 through July 21 in non-terminal areas of the South Alaska Peninsula, outside the Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM), will be restricted to a maximum of six fishing periods (no longer than 24 hours each), interspersed by 48-hour closures (5 AAC 09.366(d); Figure 2; Appendix 1). The first fishing period will be on, or shortly after July 6. The department will attempt to have concurrent fishing periods within the Southeastern, South Central, Southwestern, and Unimak districts to avoid concentrating fishing effort (Figure 1).

Additional fishing time may be allowed in terminal fishing areas (Figures 3 through 6) based on local salmon stock run strength which is evaluated from harvest data, escapement counts, and aerial surveys. Terminal harvest areas from July 6 through July 21 include: Zachary Bay, Canoe Bay, Cold Bay, Thin Point, and Morzhovoi Bay sections and the East and West Pavlof Bay sections north of the latitude of Black Point (Figure 6).

From July 22 through July 31, commercial salmon fishing in the South Peninsula outside terminal areas, (excluding the SEDM from July 22 through July 25) may be allowed for a maximum of three 36-hour fishing periods separated by 48-hour closures (Figure 2). The first fishing period will not start before 12:00 noon on July 23. The terminal areas during the July 22 through 31 time period include those areas specified for the July 6 through 21 period as well as the Deer Island, Belkofski Bay, Mino Creek-Little Coal Bay sections, Stepovak Flats Section from July 26 through July 28, and the area near Suzy Creek (ADF&G statistical area 281-65) after July 25 (Figures 7 and 8).

Fishing periods may be established for July through emergency order from 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM, except as specified above.

Thin Point Cove waters will open to commercial fishing when the department determines an acceptable abundance of sockeye salmon *Oncorhynchus nerka* are present in the Thin Point Lagoon. The Thin Point Lake sockeye salmon sustainable escapement goal (SEG) range is 14,000 to 28,000 fish (Honnold et al. 2007). Escapement estimates are determined using inseason aerial surveys.

The global positioning system (GPS) will be used to determine latitude and longitude coordinates throughout all salmon fisheries in Area M (5 AAC 09.206).

HARVEST STRATEGIES AFTER JULY

Fishing periods in August and September will be established by emergency order based on local salmon stock strength and announced by departmental news releases.

From August 1 through August 31, fishing periods in the South Alaska Peninsula will be based on the strength of local sockeye, coho *O. kisutch*, pink *O. gorbuscha*, and chum salmon *O. keta* returns.

Beginning September 1, fishing periods will be based primarily on coho salmon escapement, although late pink and chum salmon run strength may be considered when determining fishing time. Fishing effort typically declines during the fall fishery, ADF&G will not attempt to have concurrent openings between the Southeastern District and the remainder of the South Peninsula after September 1.

In an effort to accommodate enforcement activities during daylight hours, and reduce impact to legal fishing activities, fishing periods in August will open at 8:00 AM and close at 9:00 PM, and fishing periods in September will open at 9:00 AM and close at 8:00 PM.

IMMATURE SALMON

In order to reduce the incidental harvest of immature salmon, the ADFG will conduct a purse seine test fishery in the Shumagin Islands Section in early July to assess the presence and abundance of immature salmon. Test fish results from the Shumagin Islands are an indicator of the presence of immature salmon in the South Central, Southwestern, and Unimak districts of the Alaska Peninsula Management Area (McCullough and Shaul 1992). If 100 or more immature salmon per seine set are present, the fishery, in an area to be determined by the department, will be closed to purse seine gear (5 AAC 09.366 (i)) until the abundance has declined and the resulting average immature salmon harvest is below the threshold of 100 per seine set. For this purpose, immature salmon are defined as those Chinook *O. tshawytscha*, sockeye, coho, and chum salmon that become gilled in the seine web (5 AAC 09.366 (i)). Gillnet gear will be allowed to fish when immature salmon are present due to the low catch rates of these small fish in this gear type.

DISTRICT PINK AND CHUM SALMON ESCAPEMENT GOALS

The total indexed estimate of pink and chum salmon escapement is accomplished through the analysis of aerial surveys. Aerial survey methods can be found in Poetter et al. (2008).

The 2009 pink and chum salmon escapement goals for the South Alaska Peninsula are listed in Table 1 (Honnold et al. 2007).

REFERENCES CITED

- Honnold, S. G., M. J. Witteveen, I. Vining, H. Finkle, M. B. Foster, and J. J. Hasbrouck. 2007. Review of salmon escapement goals in the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Management Areas, 2006. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript No. 07-02, Anchorage. <http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/FedAidPDFs/fms07-02.pdf>
- Poetter, A. D., J. V. Jackson, and E. A. Russ. 2008. South Alaska Peninsula annual salmon management report, 2007. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Management Report No. 08-15, Anchorage. <http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/FedAidPDFs/fmr08-15.pdf>
- McCullough, J. N. and A. N. Shaul. 1992. The incidence of immature salmon in South Peninsula purse seine fisheries, 1963-91. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Regional Information Report 4K92-17, Kodiak.

TABLES AND FIGURES

Table 1.—South Alaska Peninsula pink and chum salmon escapement goals for 2009.

Pink Salmon Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) (odd year)		
	Lower range	Upper range
<i>South Peninsula Total</i>	1,637,800	3,275,700

Chum Salmon Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG)		
	Lower range	Upper range
Southeastern District	106,400	212,800
South Central District	89,800	179,600
Southwestern District	133,400	266,800
Unimak District	800	
<i>South Peninsula Total</i>	330,400	659,200

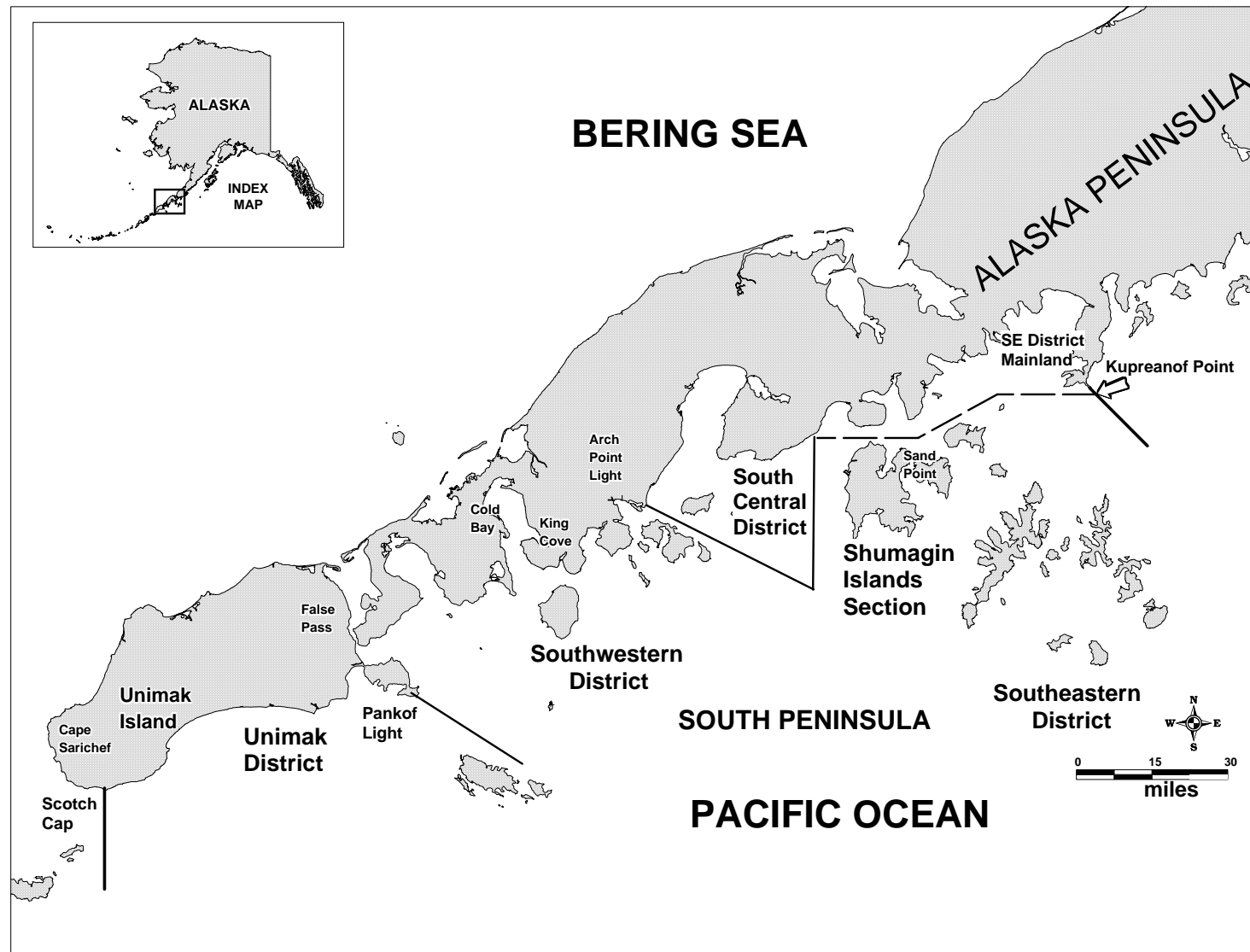


Figure 1.—South Alaska Peninsula salmon fishing districts.

ACTUAL FISHING TIME MAY DEVIATE FROM THIS SCHEDULE FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES

July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 12:01 AM-9:00PM 21 hour opening	7 48 hour closure	8 9:00PM-9:00PM 24 hour opening	9 9:00PM-9:00PM 24 hour opening	10 48 hour closure	11 9:00PM-9:00PM 24 hour opening
12 9:00PM-9:00PM 24 hour opening	13 48 hour closure	14 9:00PM-9:00PM 24 hour opening	15 9:00PM-9:00PM 24 hour opening	16 48 hour closure	17 9:00PM-9:00PM 24 hour opening	18 9:00PM-9:00PM 24 hour opening
19 48 hour closure	20 9:00PM-9:00PM 24 hour opening	21 9:00PM-9:00PM 24 hour opening	22 39 hour closure	23 12:00 NOON-12:00 MIDNIGHT 36 hour opening	24 12:00 NOON-12:00 MIDNIGHT 36 hour opening	25 48 hour closure
26	27 12:01AM-12:00 NOON 36 hour opening	28 12:01AM-12:00 NOON 36 hour opening	29 48 hour closure	30 12:00 NOON-12:00 MIDNIGHT 36 hour opening	31 12:00 NOON-12:00 MIDNIGHT 36 hour opening	

July 6-21: Maximum 6 openings of 24 hours each, interspersed with 48 hour closures

July 22-31: Maximum 3 openings of 36 hours each, interspersed with 48 hour closures

Figure 2.—South Alaska Peninsula July fishing schedule for non-terminal locations based on the Post-June salmon management plan (5 AAC 09.366).

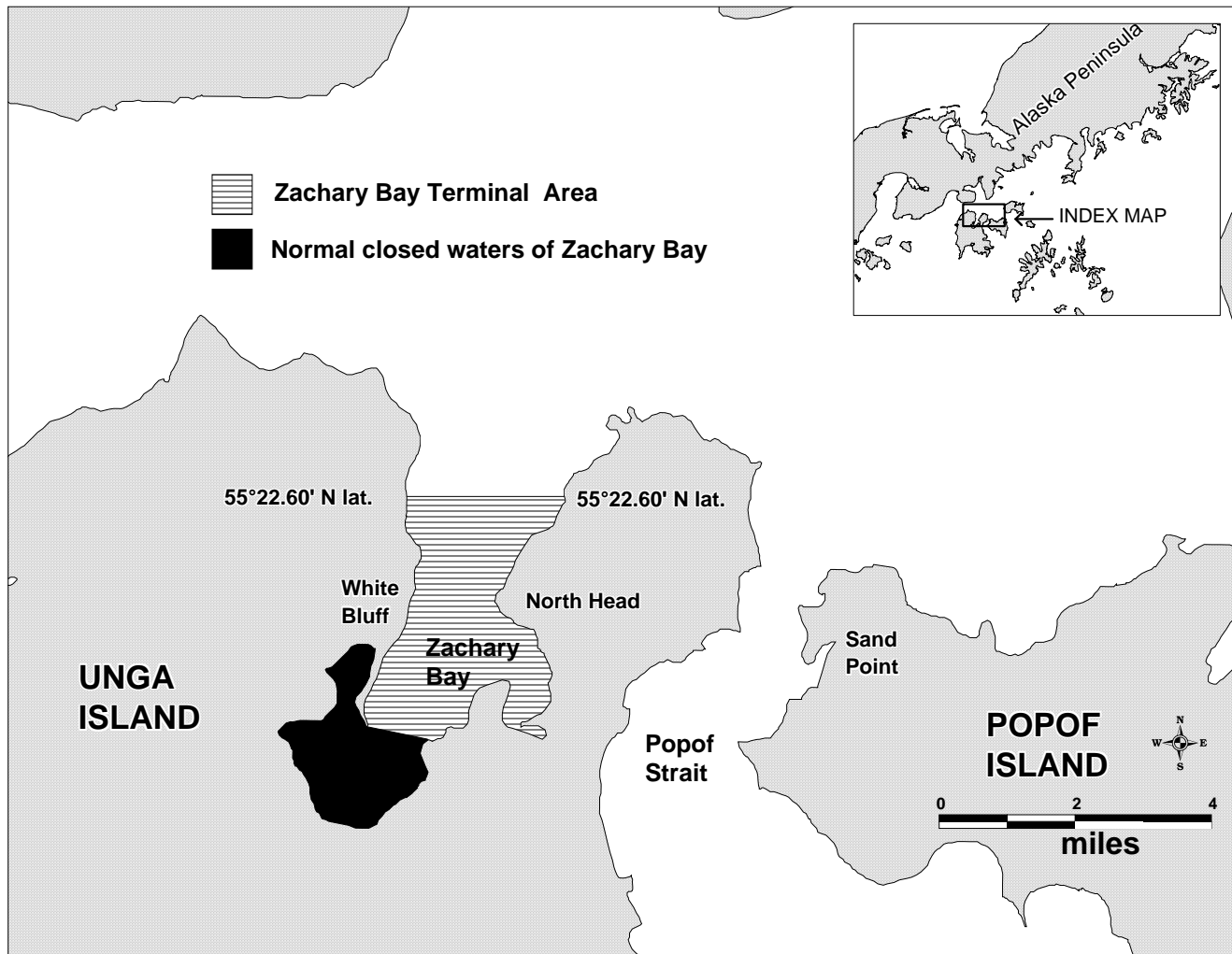


Figure 3.—Zachary Bay closed waters and Post-June terminal fishing area.

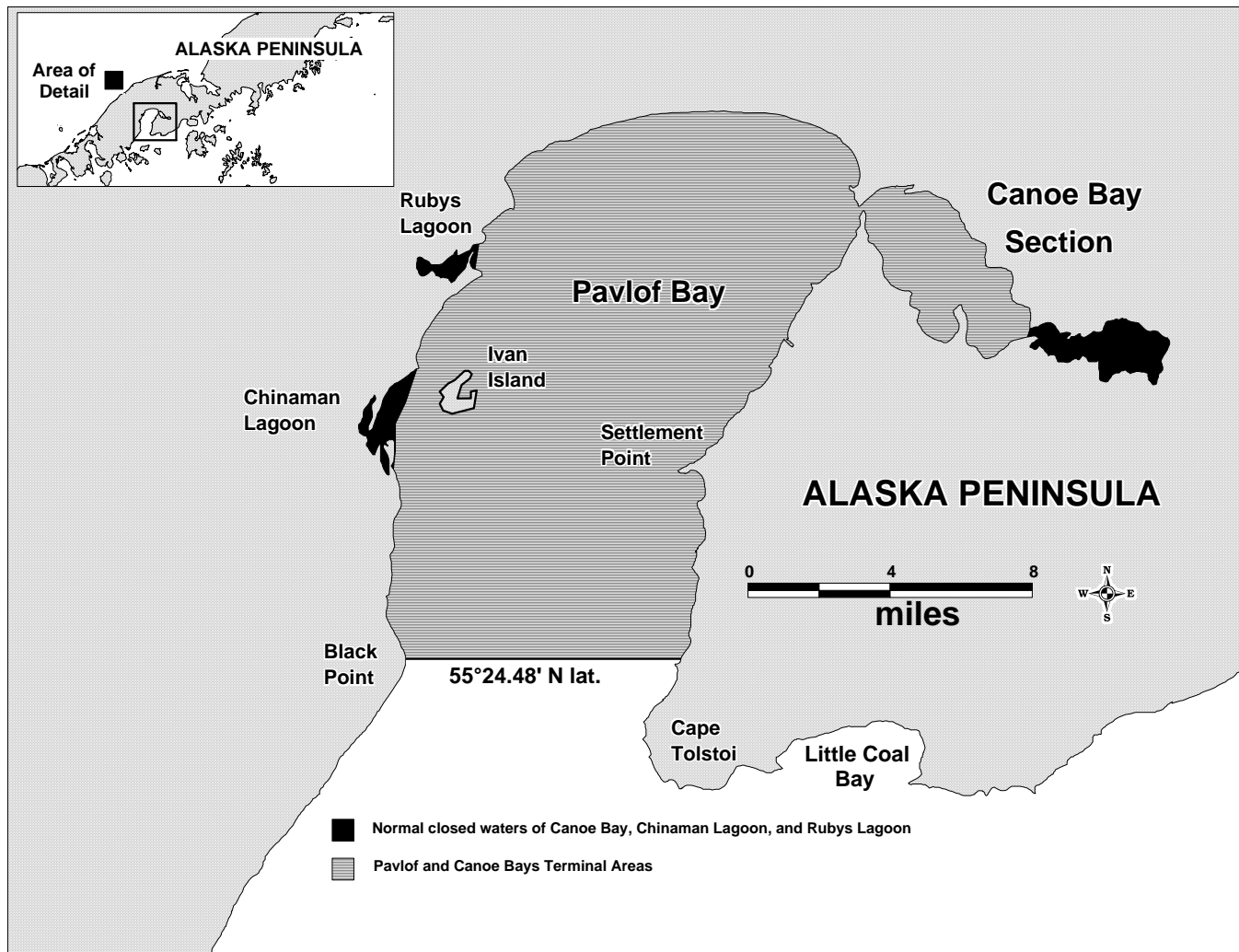


Figure 4.—Map depicting the Canoe Bay Section and Upper Pavlof Bay closed waters and Post-June terminal fishing areas.

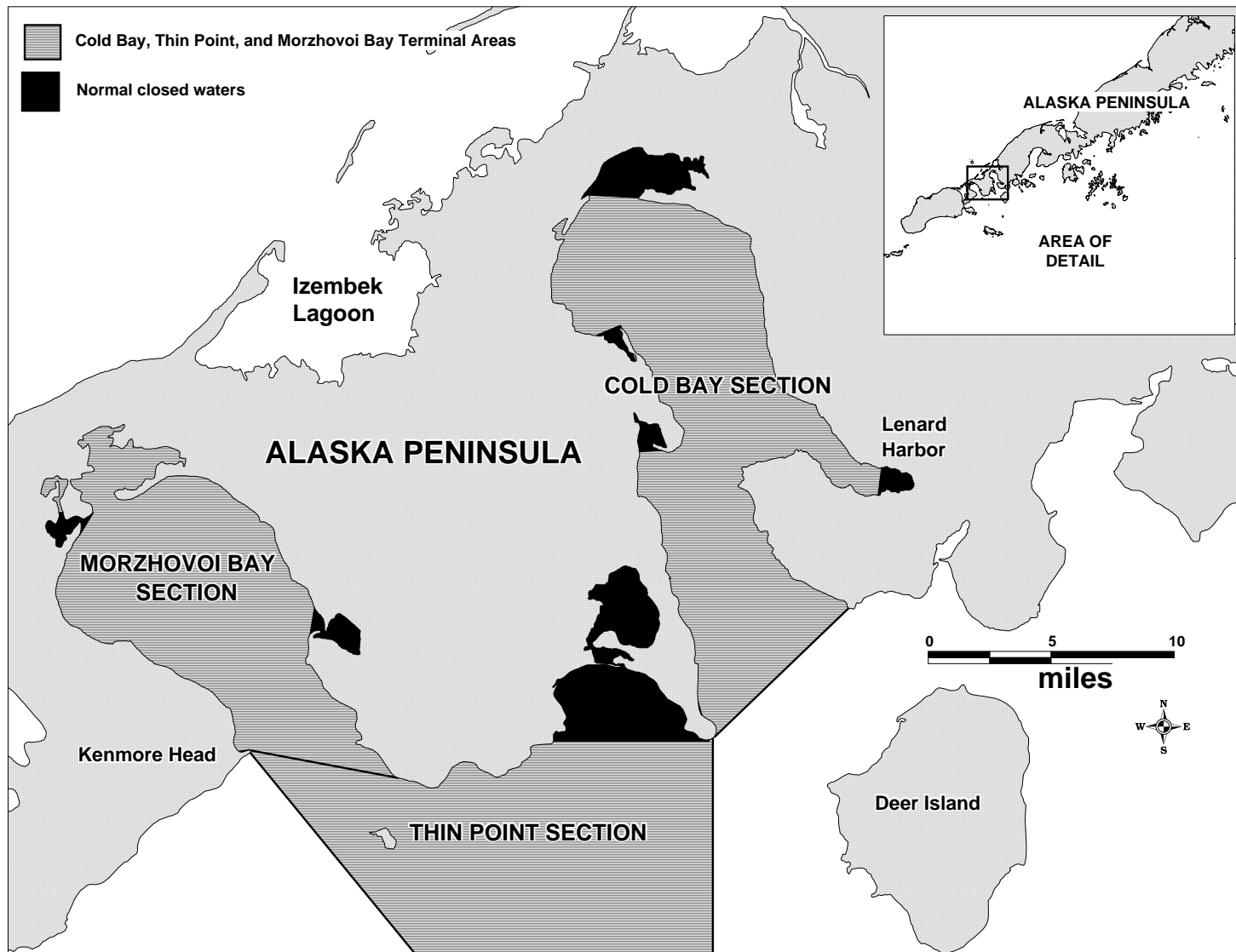


Figure 5.—Map depicting closed waters and Post-June terminal fishing areas within the Cold Bay, Thin Point and Morzhovoi Bay sections.

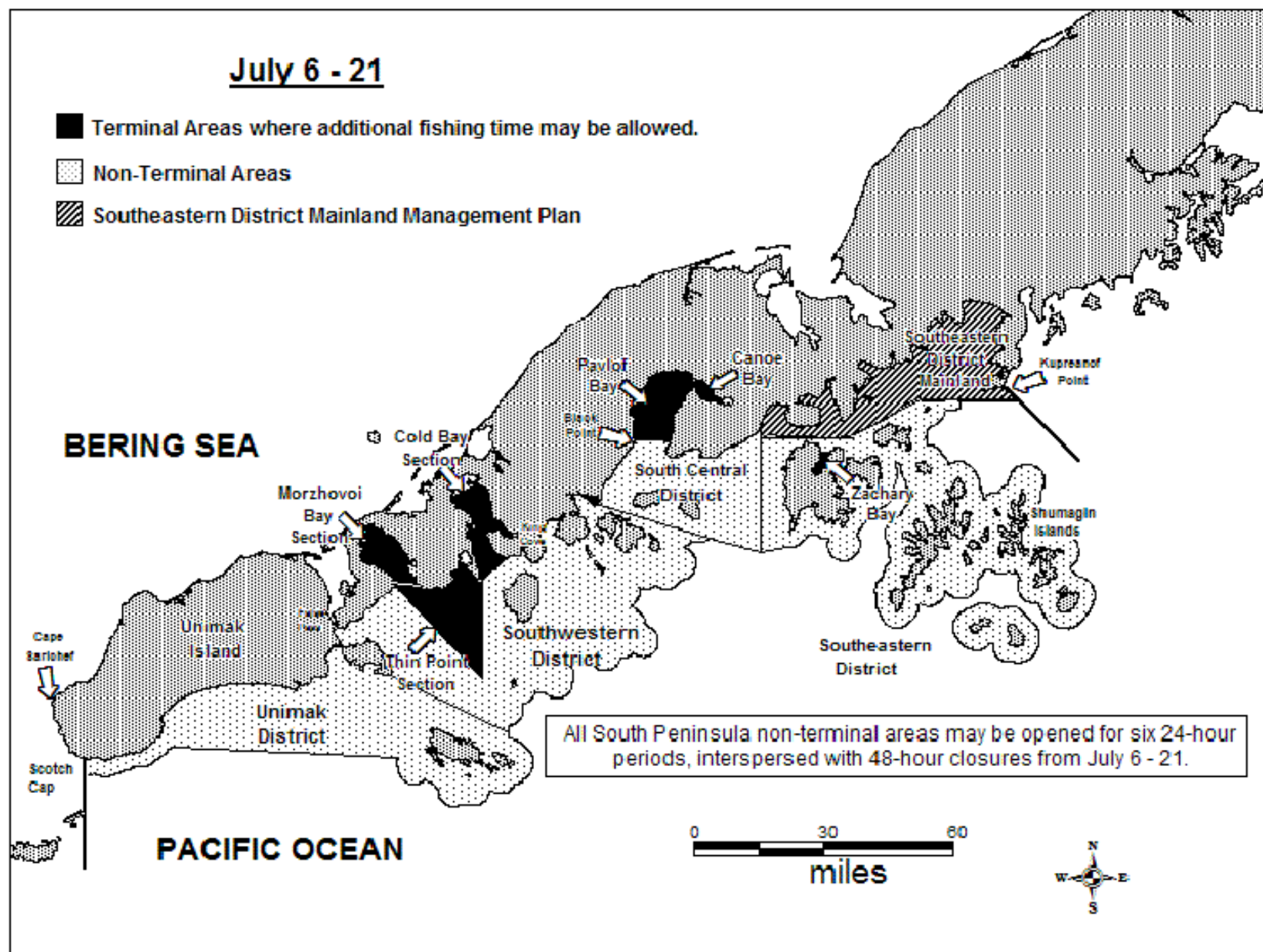


Figure 6.-South Alaska Peninsula Post-June, July 6-21 terminal fishing areas.

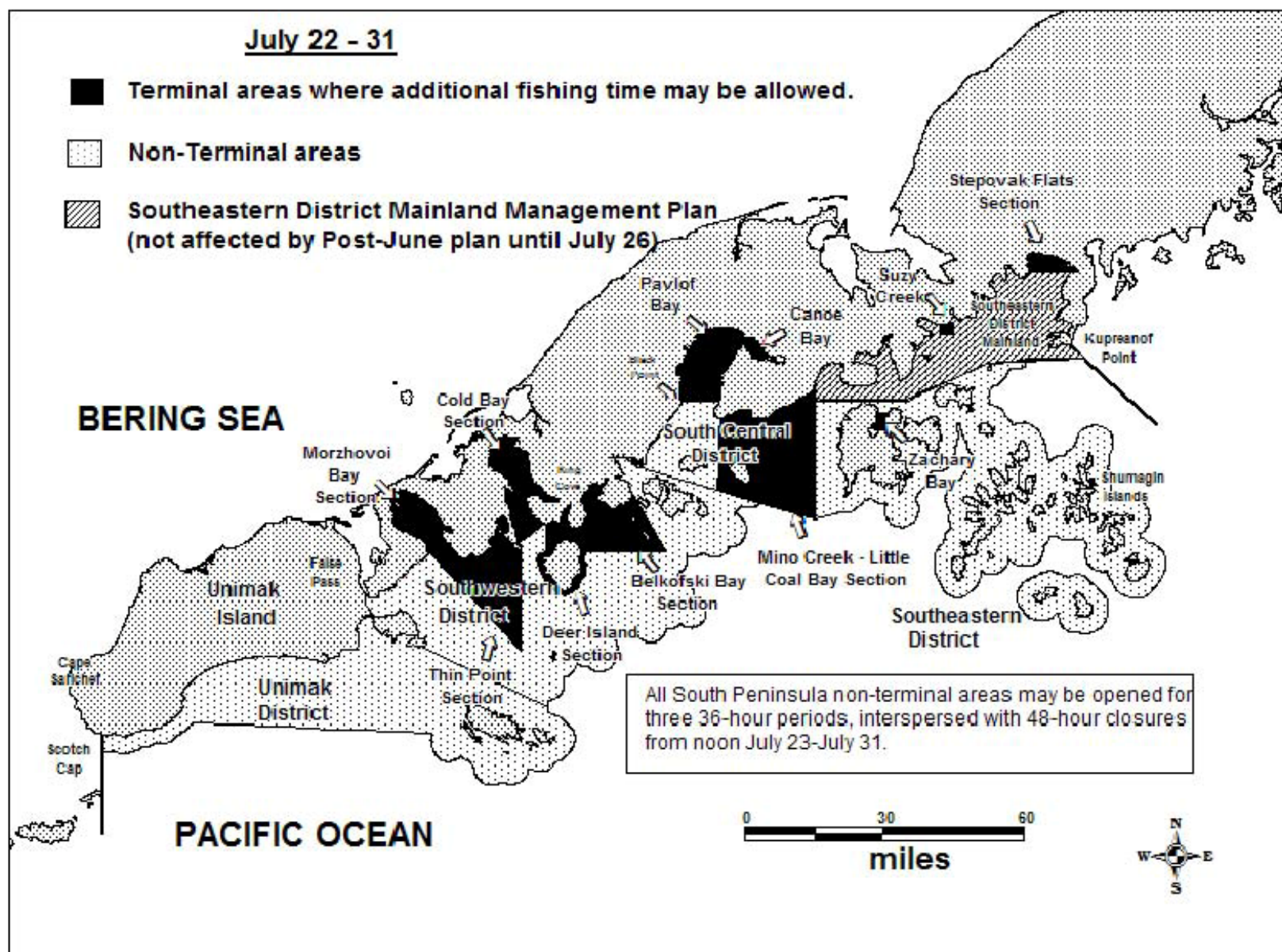


Figure 7.—South Alaska Peninsula Post-June, July 22-31 terminal fishing areas.

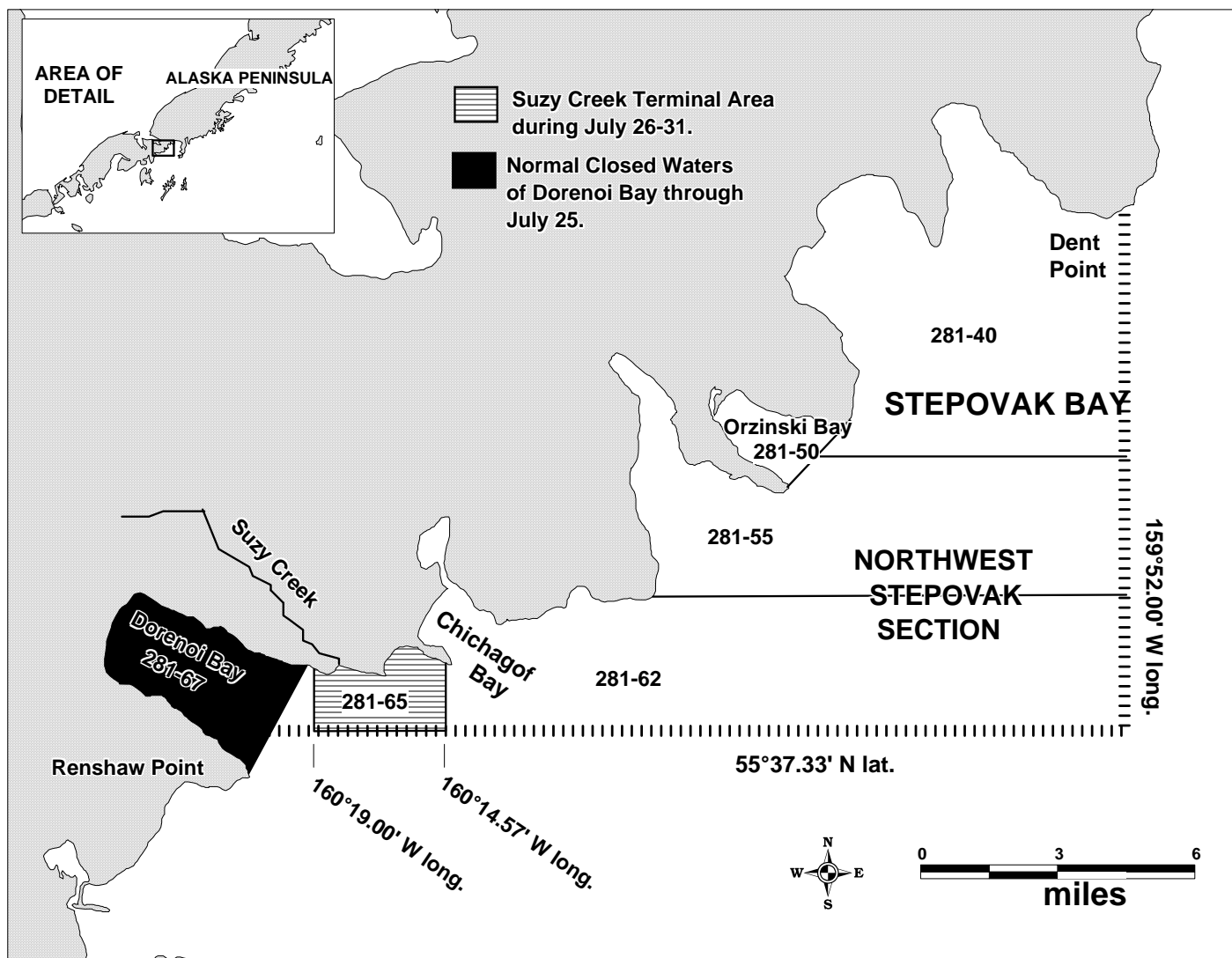


Figure 8.—Northwest Stepovak Section depicting Dorenoi Bay closed waters through July 25, and Suzy Creek Post-June terminal harvest area.

**APPENDIX A: POST-JUNE SALMON MANAGEMENT
PLAN FOR THE SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA**

5 AAC 09.366. POST-JUNE SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA.

- (a) The purpose of this management plan is to provide management guidelines to the department for the management of the post-June salmon fisheries along the South Alaska Peninsula, to provide for the harvest of local stocks in terminal harvest areas, and to establish fishing periods for the South Alaska Peninsula salmon fisheries outside of terminal harvest areas.
- (b) The commissioner shall establish, to the extent practicable, concurrent fishing periods in the Southeastern, South Central, Southwestern, and Unimak Districts.
- (c) Fishing periods may be established under this section only as follows:
 - (1) except as specified in (d), for July, from 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM;
 - (2) for August, from 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM;
 - (3) for September, from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM; and
- (d) Notwithstanding (c)(1) of this section, the commissioner may establish, by emergency order, six 24-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48 hour closures from July 6 through July 21, and three 36-hour fishing periods interspersed by 48 hour closures from July 22 through July 31. The first commercial fishing period of the July 22 through July 31 period may not start before NOON on July 23.
- (e) Repealed 6/4/2004.
- (f) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, the following terminal harvest areas to salmon fishing from July 6 through July 21:
 - (1) the Shumagin Islands Section of the Southeastern District, waters of Zachary Bay south of the latitude of 55° 22.60' N. lat.; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of pink and chum salmon stocks;
 - (2) the East and West Pavlof Bay Sections of the South Central District, waters north of the latitude of Black Point (55° 24.48' N. lat.); fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of pink and chum salmon stocks;
 - (3) the Canoe Bay Section of the South Central District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of pink and chum salmon stocks;
 - (4) in the Cold Bay, Thin Point, and Morzhovoi Bay Sections of the Southwestern District as follows:
 - (A) fishing periods in the Cold Bay Section shall be established based on the abundance of sockeye and chum salmon stocks;
 - (B) fishing periods in Thin Point Cove and Morzhovoi Bay Sections shall be established based on the abundance of sockeye salmon stocks.
- (g) In addition to the terminal harvest areas specified in (f) of this section, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, the following terminal harvest areas to salmon fishing from July 22 through July 31:
 - (1) the Northwest Stepovak Section of the Southeastern District Mainland (near Suzy Creek), after July 25, the waters east of 160° 19.00' W long. (in Dorennoi Bay), west of the cape separating Chichagof Bay and West Cove (160° 14.57' W. long.) and north of 55° 37.33' N. lat.; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink salmon stocks;
 - (2) the Stepovak Flats Section of the Southeastern District Mainland, from July 26 through July 28; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local chum salmon stocks;

-continued-

- (3) the Mino Creek-Little Coal Bay and East Pavlof Bay Sections of the South Central District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink and chum salmon stocks;
 - (4) the Belkofski Bay Section of the Southwestern District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink and chum salmon stocks;
 - (5) the Deer Island Section of the Southwestern District; fishing periods shall be established based on the abundance of local pink salmon stocks.
 - (h) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, the commercial salmon fishery in the South Alaska Peninsula as follows:
 - (1) from August 1 through August 31, fishing periods shall be based on the abundance of local sockeye, coho, pink, and chum salmon stocks;
 - (2) from September 1 through September 30, fishing periods shall be based on abundance of coho salmon stocks, although the department may consider the abundance of late pink and chum salmon stocks.
 - (i) The department shall conduct a seine test fishery in the Shumagin Islands Section to assess the presence of immature salmon. If 100 or more immature salmon, per set, are present, the commissioner shall close, by emergency order, the seine fishery in an area to be determined by the department. If the seine fishery is closed in an area under this subsection, the set gillnet fishery shall remain open in that area. For the purposes of this subsection, “immature salmon per set, are present” means the number of immature king, sockeye, coho, and chum salmon observed to be gilled in the seine web.
-